(b) whether the system works round the clock at such stations;

(c) what is the total number of prominent railway stations without proper announcement system; and

(d) What steps Government have taken to provide the announcement system for the benefit of Passengers at Prominent Railway Stations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) 970

(b) The timings of the working of public address system are fixed keeping in view the requirement at each station.

(c) Nil, Sir.

(d) All the major railway stations in the country have been provided with announcement system. However, this facility is being gradually extended to more stations.

Railway Tracks

3965. SHRI VENOD SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the accumulated arrears of railways tracks renewals at the end of Sixth and Seventh five year plan in the country;

(b) what target was set for renewal of tracks during the Seventh plan and 1990-91 and 1991-92 and tracks actually renewed;

(c) what is the backlog of track renewal at the beginning of the Five Year Plan;

(d) whether it is proposed to wipe out the entire arrears by the end of 1992; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the financial requirements for clearing the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Arrears of track renewals at the end of VIth and VIIth plan were 19,500 Kms. and 12,000 Kms. respectively.

(Figures in complete track Units-Kms.)

Period	Targetted	Actual
VIIth Plan 1985-1991) . . .	19,000	19,623
1990-91 .	3,500	3,611
1991-92 . .	3,325	3,360

(c) The assessed level of arrears at the commencement of VIIIth Plan (1.4.92) is 9,600 Kms.

(d) No Sir, with the level of allocations for track Renewals in VIII plan, only bulk of arrears on trunk routes and important BG lines would be wiped out in the VIII plan. The conversion policy will also bring down existing arrears of renewals significantly on MG system.

(e) Does not arise.

Freight operation information system project

3966. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Freight Operation Information System Project approved in 1989, is under implementation by the Centre for Railway Information Service (CRIS); and

(b) if so, what is the present status in implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The preparatory work in connection with the implementation of the computer segment of the project have been taken up by Centre for Railway Information System (CRIS). However, the pace and phasing of implementation will depend upon availability of funds.